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**THE FEDERAL STATUTES ANNOTATED.** Notes on the Constitution of the United States preceded by The Declaration of Independence, The Articles of Confederation, The Ordinance for the Government of the Northwest Territory, The Text of the Constitution with an Analytical Index, A Monograph, by William M. Meigs, on the Growth of the Constitution in the Federal Convention of 1787, and an Article on Constitutional Construction and Interpretation. By Thomas H. Calvert. Compiled under the editorial supervision of William M. McKinney. Vol. VIII. Edward Thompson Company, Northport, Long Island, New York: 1905.

To our mind this is by far the most interesting and valuable volume in this most important series. The Thompson Company was wise to incorporate in it Mr. Meig's valuable monograph in which he traces the origin and development of each separate clause of the Federal Constitution from its first suggestion in the Convention of 1787 to its final form. This work is important not only from an historical but from a practical standpoint. It takes only a glance at Mr. Meig's treatise to observe the all-important part performed by Virginia in making the fundamental law of the nation.

It was a happy thought too to place in this volume a monograph on Constitutional Construction and Interpretation, which is written entirely from reviews of cases constructing and applying the Federal Constitution. It is well that the monograph is founded only on such cases, because the practitioner, unless very careful, is apt to confound the principles governing the interpretation and construction of the Federal Constitution with those governing State constitutions, while in fact their scope and purposes are entirely distinct.

That part of the volume devoted to the discussion of the Constitution itself is most admirably arranged. Each section is followed by a thorough classification of the authorities bearing on the same. Many able treatises have been written on the Constitution, but for quick and ready access to decisions relating to each clause this work perhaps surpasses them all.

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**BRIEF MAKING and the Use of Law Books**, by William M. Lile, Henry S. Redfield, Eugene Wambaugh, Alfred F. Mason, and James E. Wheeler. Edited by Nathan Abbott, Jr., Dean of the Leland Stanford University School of Law. West Publishing Company, St. Paul, Minnesota: 1906. \$2.00 delivered.

The purpose of this most excellent publication is to place at the disposal of law schools a manual which will enable them to give their students systematic instruction in brief making, investigation of authorities, law classification, and American legal bibliography. That there was a crying need for such a work is fully evidenced by the fact that on the mere announcement of publication, over sixty law schools signified their intention to use the book in the class-room. No lawyer can take it up and examine its contents without realizing what a great disadvantage he suffered in beginning his professional career in not having had just such information as is here contained. The law graduate who has thoroughly studied this